

Message Text

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S/S - RKUCHEL

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

INFO AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

CINCPAC

S E C R E T STATE 109187

EXDIS MILITARY ADDEES HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AS, US, PFOR

SUBJECT: PM WHITLAM'S MEETING WITH SECRETARY

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

1. WHITLAM AND PARTY MET WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER IN HIS
WHITE HOUSE OFFICE FOR ABOUT HALF HOUR ON AFTERNOON OF
MAY 7, PRIOR TO CALL ON PRESIDENT FORD. MAJOR SUBSTANTIVE
ISSUE DISCUSSED WAS INDIAN OCEAN. COMMONWEALTH CONFERENCE
AT JAMAICA AND COMMODITY POLICIES ALSO TOUCHED UPON.

2. WHITLAM RAISED INDIAN OCEAN MATTER, SAYING HE WAS
"DISAPPOINTED, NOT VEXED, ONLY DISAPPOINTED" TO HAVE
LEARNED FROM FONMIN WILLESEE (DURING ANZUS CONSULTATIONS)
THAT US HAD NOT MADE ANY NEW CONTACT WITH SOVIETS SINCE
1971 ON CONCEPT OF "MUTUAL RESTRAINT" IN INDIAN OCEAN.
SECRETARY DESCRIBED TACTICAL AND TIMING PROBLEMS OF RAISING
SUCH AN ISSUE WITH THE SOVIETS RIGHT NOW. WHITLAM
CONSISTENTLY EXPRESSED HIS VIEWS ON INDIAN OCEAN IN CONTEXT

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OF CONCERN OF OTHER COMMONWEALTH MEMBERS IN THE AREA,
MAKING IT CLEAR THAT HE HAD DISCUSSED ISSUE WITH COMMON-
WEALTH LEADERS DURING KINGSTON MEETING.

3. MEETING WENT CORDIALLY, DISCUSSION WAS FRANK BUT VERY FRIENDLY. NEVERTHELESS WHITLAM'S VIEWS SEEMED BASED ON RATHER SUPERFICIAL UNDERSTANDING OF MANY KEY FACTORS INVOLVED. KISSINGER

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